

REMARKS

In this response, claims 1, 20, and 26 have been amended. Support for these amendments is found throughout the originally submitted application. No new matter has been added.

Claims 1-31 are presently pending.

Drawing Objections

In the Office Action, the Examiner objected to the drawings because a heat spreader was claimed, but not shown in drawings. The Applicants would like to draw Examiner's attention to drawing amendments filed June 28, 2005, which added heat spreader **68** to FIG. 1. In light of these drawing amendments, Applicants request withdrawal of this present objection.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1-6, 9-16 and 18-31 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over US Patent 5,402,004 issued to Ozmat et al ("Ozmat") in view of US Publication 2003/022732 A1 filed by Dessiatoun et al ("Dessiatoun") and further in view of US Publication 2002/0108743 A1 filed by Wirtz ("Wirtz") or, alternatively, in view of US Publication 2004/0022027 A1 filed by Weber et al. ("Weber").

Claim 1 has been amended and now discloses an apparatus comprising a heat source with at least one integrated circuit, a heat exchanger, and

a thermal management device having a case including a cavity and a microporous medium disposed within and filling the entire cavity, the thermal management device to allow for a fluid to flow through said cavity and microporous medium to thermally couple the heat source to the heat exchanger.

It is clear that neither Ozmat, Dessiatoun, Wirtz, nor Weber, alone or in combination, fairly teach, suggest, or imply, a thermal management device having a microporous medium filling an entire cavity of a case as recited in claim 1, for example.

The only references that arguably disclose a microporous medium, e.g., Wirtz and Weber, do so in arrangements that leave substantial areas of respective cavities unoccupied by the microporous medium. Therefore, they do not teach that the microporous medium fills the entire cavity, as recited in claim 1, for example. No teachings, either in the references themselves, or in the art in general, suggest modifying the arrangements of Wirtz/Weber so that the microporous medium fills the entire cavity. In fact, as Applicants pointed out in earlier responses, the cited articles can be read to teach away from having a microporous medium filling an entire cavity of a case due to the accompanying high flow resistances.

For at least the foregoing reasons, the Applicants submit that claim 1 is patentable over the cited articles and is in proper form for allowance. Claims 2-6, 9-16 and 18-31 either depend from, or include limitations similar to, claim 1. Therefore, for at least the above reasons, these claims are also in proper form for allowance.

Claims 7 and 8 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ozmat in view of Dessiatoun and further in view of Wirtz or, alternatively, in view of Weber and further in view of US Patent 6958912 issued to Pokharna et al ("Pokharna").

Claims 7 and 8 depend from claim 1 and are patentable for at least the reasons given above with respect to claim 1. Furthermore, the Applicants would like to point out that the present application and Pokharna were, at the time of the invention of the present application, assigned to and/or subject to a duty to assign to, the same entity, i.e., Intel Corporation. Therefore, the Applicants request that Pokharna be disqualified from being used in an obviousness rejection of the present application.

Claim 17 is rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ozmat in view of Dessiatoun and further in view of Wirtz or alternatively in view of Weber and further in view of US Patent 5459352 issued to Layton et al. ("Layton").

Claim 17 depends from claim 1 and is patentable for at least the reasons given above with respect to claim 1.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 1-31 are patentable. Thus, early issuance of Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.


The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge shortages or credit overpayments to Deposit Account No. 500393. .

Should there be any lingering questions, Applicant invites the Examiner to call the undersigned to have the questions resolved to allow the subject application to expeditiously pass to issuance.

Respectfully submitted,

Schwabe, Williamson & Wyatt, P.C.

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Nathan R. Maki
Reg. No. 51110

Pacwest Center, Suite 1900
1211 SW Fifth Avenue
Portland, Oregon 97204
Telephone: 503-222-9981